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BABYLON 5
IN VALEN'S NAME
PART THREE OF THREE
BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI, PETER DAVID, MICHAEL COLLINS AND DAVID ROACH
DIRECT SALES
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BASED ON THE WARNER BROS. TELEVISION SERIES BABYLON 5 CREATED BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI

AND WE PRAY, Z'ONDAR, THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO PROVE OURSELVES WORTHY OF YOU ONCE MORE. THAT YOU WILL WELCOME US TO YOUR WAY... 3
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AUTO TRANSLATION OF TAKCHA ENGAGED
...FOR WE FELL FROM YOUR GRACE CENTURIES AGO. WE, YOUR LOYAL DISCIPLES, THE EXILES. THE WANDERERS. AND NOW WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO YOUR GREATNESS...
...AND WE WILL NOT FAIL.
RAMDELA COZON.
YES, RAMDE.
OUR SHIPS ARE IN PLACE?
YES, RAMDE.
HAVE THEM HOLD POSITION. I WILL PERSONALLY LEAD THEM IN TO THE ENDE X'TON. I SHOULD HAVE DONE THAT IN THE FIRST PLACE.
THAT WILL BE MOST DANGEROUS, RAMDE HAXTUR.
THE Z'ONDAR WOULD HAVE WANTED NOTHING LESS.
WHAT WE DO NOW... WE DO IN HIS NAME.

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IN VALEN'S NAME BOOK THREE

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COMICRAFT — LETTERS
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BABYLON NARROW
EVERY SO OFTEN, WHEN I -- SUSAN IVANOVA -- FIND MYSELF IN A DIFFICULT SITUATION, SUCH AS... OH, I DON'T KNOW...
...BEING IN A PLUMMETING SPACE STATION THAT'S GOING TO BURN UP IN A PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE, UNLESS I'M KILLED FIRST BY UNKNOWN ALIEN RAIDERS...
...I FIND MYSELF THINKING OF *JEFFREY SINCLAIR*, FIRST COMMANDER OF BABYLON 5... WHO WOUND UP GOING BACK IN TIME A THOUSAND YEARS WITH THIS VERY STATION, BABYLON 4, AND BECOMING THE LEGENDARY MINBARI LEADER VALEN.

BASED ON THE WARNER BROS. TELEVISION SERIES BABYLON 5 *CREATED BY J. MICHAEL STRACZYNSKI*

AND I WONDER TO MYSELF, WHAT WOULD COMMANDER JEFFREY SINCLAIR DO IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS?
THEN I TRY TO PICTURE HIM BENDING OVER AND KISSING HIMSELF GOOD-BYE.
THAT'S USUALLY ABOUT WHERE THE SPECULATION ENDS.
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THERE APPEAR TO BE ABOUT TWENTY OF THEM... NOW ANOTHER ONE'S COMING OUT...
HUH. IT'S PROBABLY A RANKING OFFICER. THEY SEEM TO BE MOVING ASIDE, GIVING HIM ROOM.
WE NEED TO BUY ENOUGH TIME FOR MICHAEL TO GET MORE OF THESE FIGHTERS WORKING, SO WE CAN GET OFF THE STATION BEFORE IT BURNS UP.
THEN TRY APPLYING YOUR MAGIC TOUCH TO THE OTHERS. IN THE MEANTIME, I'M TAKING THIS ONE.
BUT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO OPERATE IT!
LET'S HOPE CAPTAINING WHITE STARS HAS GIVEN ME SOME FAMILIARITY WITH THE CONTROLS.
WHOA. WAIT A MINUTE. IT WAS LUCK THAT I GOT THIS ONE WORKING. ALL I DID WAS HIT THE DAMNED THING.
CAPTAIN, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ONCE YOU GET OUT THERE?
EVER SEE A CAT WHEN IT'S OVERMATCHED, COMMANDER?
HUH? I DON'T --?
I'M GOING TO ARCH MY BACK AND MAKE MYSELF LOOK SCARIER THAN I AM.

I AM RAMDE ZARWIN OF THE TAKTCHA... AND I SERVED VALEN LIKE NO OTHER.
MY PEOPLE WERE DEDICATED TO VALEN. WE CAME TO HIM WHEN HE CALLED, JOINED HIM IN HIS WAR AGAINST THE SHADOWS.
WE WERE DIRECTIONLESS, AND HE SHOWED US THE WAY. HE GAVE US PURPOSE.
AND WE BUILT UPON HIS TEACHINGS...
...AND WERE REJECTED.
FOR WE SAW THE LOGICAL EXTENSION OF WHAT HE TAUGHT US... AND ALTHOUGH WE FOLLOWED HIM INTO FIRE, INTO DARKNESS, INTO DEATH...
HE WOULD NOT FOLLOW US.
NOW WHAT SORT OF LEADER IS THAT?

"WE WERE AMONG THE FIRST TO COME TO HIM. WE WERE THERE WHEN HE DELIVERED HIS 'TIMES TO COME' SPEECH AT THE PEAK OF MOUNT H'LEVA ON MINBAR.
"I WAS THERE IN THE CROWD. I WAS STRUCK BY HIS VISION, BY HIS CERTAINTY AND CHARISMA.
"AND HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY POWERFUL BEINGS, VORLONS, WHO SEEMED AS IF THEY HAD BEEN SENT BY TA'CHA GODS THEMSELVES. HOW, INDEED, COULD WE REFUSE TO JOIN VALEN IN HIS HOLY WAR?
"I WAS THE FIRST OF THE FIRST OF HIS DISCIPLES, AND I WOULD GLADLY HAVE LAID DOWN MY LIFE FOR HIM, FOR SUCH WAS THE GREATNESS WITHIN HIM THAT I PERCEIVED."

"VALEN EVEN BASED THE MAIN WEAPON OF THE KEL'SHOR UPON A TRADITIONAL WEAPON CALLED A BARRAEN. I GAVE HIM HIS FIRST GROUNDINGS IN IT...
"ALTHOUGH I READILY ADMIT THAT THE PUPIL QUICKLY OUTSTRIPPED THE TEACHER."
MY APOLOGIES, TARWIN. I HOPE I DIDN'T HURT YOU. I WAS... DISTRACTED.
DISTRACTED? YOU DISPATCH ME SO EASILY... AND YOU WERE DISTRACTED? HUMILIATE ME A BIT MORE, VALEN, IF YOU WISH.
WHAT TROUBLES YOU, GREAT ONE?
WHAT WOULD YOU DO, TARWIN, IF YOU KNEW OF A GREAT WAR TO COME... ONE THAT WOULD BE CAUSED BY MISUNDERSTANDING... AND YOU HAD IT WITHIN YOUR POWER TO PREVENT THE WAR...
BUT DARED NOT.
I... DID NOT UNDERSTAND, VALEN. WHY WOULD YOU DESIRE TO DO THAT?
DO WHAT?
PREVENT A WAR.
WHAT?

GLORY IS FOUND IN WAR. THERE IS NO GREATER DEATH THAN ONE FOUND IN BATTLE ON BEHALF OF A GREATER CAUSE.
WHY WOULD YOU WISH TO DENY ANYONE THAT WONDROUS MEANS OF DEPARTING THIS SPHERE?
ZARWIN... WHERE DID YOU COME UP WITH THAT BELIEF?
WHY... FROM YOUR TEACHINGS, GREAT ONE.
GREAT ONE... HAVE I ANGERED YOU IN SOME WAY?
NO, NO. I SIMPLY FIND IT INTERESTING WHAT DIFFERENT PEOPLE TAKE AWAY FROM MY TEACHINGS. SPACE MAY EXIST IN A VACUUM...
...BUT THE THINGS I SAY OBVIOUSLY DO NOT.

SUSAN, GET DELENN ON.
I'M HERE, JOHN.
DELENN, THERE'S AN ARRAY OF CONTROLS TO MY RIGHT AND LEFT, TRIANGULAR, RED AND GREEN RESPECTIVELY. ANY IDEA WHAT THEY ARE?
I'M NOT CERTAIN. THEY COULD BE OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE SYSTEMS, BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO BE SURE.
WELL, WITH ANY LUCK, I WON'T NEED THEM. STAY IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH MICHAEL, FIND OUT HOW HE'S COMING WITH ESCAPE VESSELS.
I'M GOING TO DO WHAT I CAN OUT HERE.
BABCOM
I'VE SEEN JOHN SHERIDAN FLY WITH MORE CONFIDENCE THAN ANY OTHER PILOT I'VE EVER KNOWN. HIS SKITTISHNESS ABOUT THE CONTROLS IS ENTIRELY TO ME.
I JUST HOPE TO GOD IT'S NOT DIVIDED TO OUR FRIENDS OUT THERE, BECAUSE I THINK I KNOW WHAT HE'S PLANNING TO DO.
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BAMDE, WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE DOORS?
I'M NOT SURE IT DOES NOT SEEM TO BE THREATENING IN ANY WAY.
DO NOT GET TOO CLOSE, BAMDE. DO NOT PUT YOURSELF AT RISK.
I'M BEING AN OLD WOMAN AGAIN.
NEVER A DULL MOMENT
AND WHAT IS THE MEANING OF ZONDRA? THERE'S MANY TOURISTS IN PLACE

SOOOOO
GREETING
THESE ARE THE
REVERSE

AW CRAP! CAPTAIN WHAT
WHO'S THE DESIGN GENIUS WHO PUT A WEAPONS SYSTEM WHERE THE THRUSTERS SHOULD BE?!
GET OUT OF THERE NOW! HURRY!
WE ALLOWED THEM TO APPROACH, AND THIS IS THE RESPONSE WE GET!
ALL WINGS, FOLLOW ME IN! STAY BACK! THIS KILL IS MINE!
WHAT IS GREAT KHA AH UCK THIS IS THE SELF-DESTRUCT HUMANS USED!
ONE DAY SOON I WILL BE MYSELF AND TWO OTHER CLOSE ALLIES, NUMENN AND RASHOR, COME TO ME FOR THERE ARE IMPORTANT THINGS I MUST DISCUSS WITH YOU. I WAS BROUGHT TO MIND FIRST

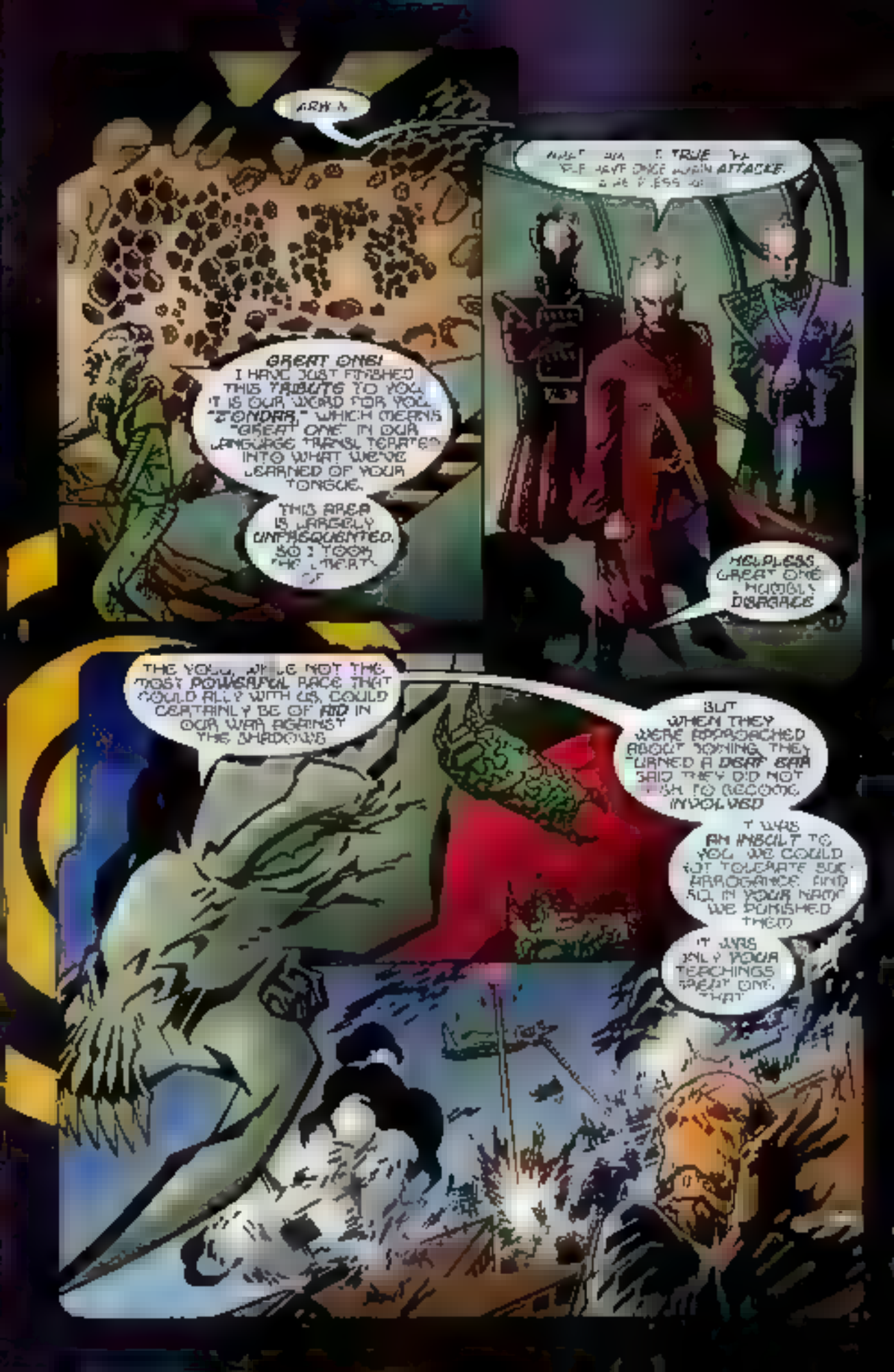
I SHALL NOT LET YOU KNOW WHAT ABOUT YOU HAVE BE
THERE IS A DETAILED MESSAGE IN HERE FOR THE CALLED DELEAN BUT SHE IS NOT OF NOW SHE IS OF THE FAR FUTURE
SO THAT A GREA MISUNDERSTANDING
HERE SEEMED TO BE A SHORT IN ELECTRICITY IN THE AIR. THE GOBLIN SAID NOTHING. BUT DEKEL'S HOODED HEAD JERKED. NOR DID

ARGUING
I KNEW ALL THE WAY AND YET SOMEHOW FELT THAT IF I MERELY ALLOWED SO MANY TO DIE
HOWEVER THERE IS NO
THERE IS BUT ONE V ONE
T IS YOURS JUST AHEAD
HAPPENED HERE? WHERE'S ALEX GOING?
I AM NOT SURE
IT HAS SOMETHING TO DO WITH A CRUSADER STANDING

I'M A MUTANT! THEY'LL MAKE THIS LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT!
I DON'T WANT HIM GOING ANYWHERE!
FAST AND HARD HITTING. CUT OFF HIS ESCAPE ROUTE!
HEH.

WELL DONE, PERRY.
CAPTAIN.
I CAN'T MAKE IT TO ANY OF THE DOCKING POINTS. I'M BRINGING HER BACK TO THE COBRA BAY! MICHAEL, CLEAR OUT!
JESUS

SPY THERE'S NO OXYGEN IN SPACE. THE ONLY THING FIREBALL MIGHT EAT IS THE GAS IN THE TANK. FOR A FEW MINUTES IN STEAL A BEING SUCKED OUT
WHAT HAPPENED AT THERE
ACCIDENT
IT'S ANY COMFORT THIS ONE . SKYBAG. TAKE A OF LESS TIME
FIND THEM. I WANT THOSE WHO WOULD DESECRATE THE PLACE OF THE 2'ONDAR
I WANT THE ONE WHO FIRED UPON ME BROUGHT TO ME ALIVE SO THAT I MAY TAKE HIS HEAD MYSELF AS FOR ANY OTHERS WHO DARE
SLAY THAT ON SIGHT IN THE NAME OF THE 2'ONDAR.


ARH N
GREAT ONE! I HAVE JUST FINISHED THIS TABUTE TO YOU. IT IS OUR WORD FOR YOU "TONDRA," WHICH MEANS "GREAT ONE" IN OUR LANGUAGE TRANSLATED INTO WHAT WE'VE LEARNED OF YOUR TONGUE.
THIS AREA IS LARGELY UNFAMILIAR. SO I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF
TRUE
ATTACKS.
HELPLESS GREAT ONE HUMBLE DISGRACE
THE YOU ARE NOT THE MOST POWERFUL RACE THAT COULD ALLY WITH US, COULD CERTAINLY BE OF AID IN OUR WAR AGAINST THE SHADOWS
BUT WHEN THEY WERE APPROACHED ABOUT JOINING, THEY TURNED A DEAF EAR SAID THEY DID NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED
IT WAS AN INSULT TO YOU. WE COULD NOT TOLERATE SUCH ARROGANCE. AND SO, IN YOUR NAME WE PUNISHED THEM
IT WAS ONLY YOUR TEACHINGS, GREAT ONE, THAT

OBVIOUSLY SPLAT ONE
THEY DO NOT DESERVE TO
INNOCENT BEINGS SLAUGHTERED IN MY NAME
COMPASSION? HAVE YOU NO ARE FOR THE HELPLESS?
WE ARE ONLY GLORIFYING YOUR NAME
YOU MUST DO AS ALLIES.
AND SO WE BANISHED
AND DISRATED THE FLOATING

I UNDERSTAND WHERE WE HERE ALSO HAD TO ADAPT TO WHAT WE FOUND IN WHAT WE NEEDED TO BE HIS REFUGE BUT WE MUST ACCEPT HIS WORDS. EVEN IF WE DON'T COMPREHEND THEM.
AND WE WILL HOPE THAT SOMEDAY WE WILL BE ABLE TO NAME ANOTHER FOR THE SUN WHICH WE DON'T UNDERSTAND
SO THEN IN SOME WAY WE WILL BE ABLE TO SEAVE HIM AGAIN
CAPTAIN WE'RE JUST GOING TO LOVE THIS OUR RATE OF DESCENT HAS INCREASED FROM STEADY GAIN TO THE EXPLOSION DON'T KNOW HOW
AT OUR PRESENT SPEED WE'RE GOT MAYBE THREE FOUR HOURS BEFORE
JOHN
WHAT SHOTS BEING FIRE
CAPTAIN DON'T DO SO AGAIN
WE'RE FINE. JOHN WAS AS THEY ARE FROM BOTH SIDES HAD NO INTENT
OH A WAY
WAIT
I'M STAY
DELENN! DELENN!

ALL RIGHT... PREPARE TO ROLL AN EXPLOSIVE IN THERE. THAT SHOULD FLUSH THEM OUT... OR BLOW THEM TO PIECES. EITHER WAY IS WORKABLE.
RAMOS! WE FOUND ONE. COMING TO TRY TO HELP THE OTHERS!
GOOD WORK. BRING IT HERE.
WAIT! LISTEN TO ME! I --
JOHN --!
DELENN!

DE... DELENN?
DELENN?
DELENN.
T'ONDAR.
ZARWIN.
T'ONDAR -- ZARWIN -- TAC'CHA -- MINBARI.
I'LL BE DAMNED.
FRIENDS OF YOURS, DELENN?
IT WOULD SEEM SO.

BABCOM transcript
MAKE NO MISTAKE — THE TAKTOKA, AS THEY ARE APPARENTLY CALLED, ARE NOT EXACTLY A CUDDLY RACE.
THEY CONTINUE TO REGARD THE CAPTAIN, GARIBALDI AND ME WITH A DEGREE OF SUSPICION, BUT THEY WORSHIP DELENN, SO WE'RE SAFE ENOUGH AS THEY PREPARE TO BRING US OVER TO THEIR SHIP, TO TRANSPORT US BACK TO BABYLON 5.
APPARENTLY DELENN'S NAME APPEARED IN SACRED TEXTS OF THEIRS. WHEN A NOTED LEADER OF THEIRS, ZARWIN, RECOUNTED A MEETING BETWEEN HIMSELF AND VALEN. SHE WAS SOMETHING OF A MYSTERY TO THEM. ONE MYSTERY DOWN. TEN ZILLION TO GO.
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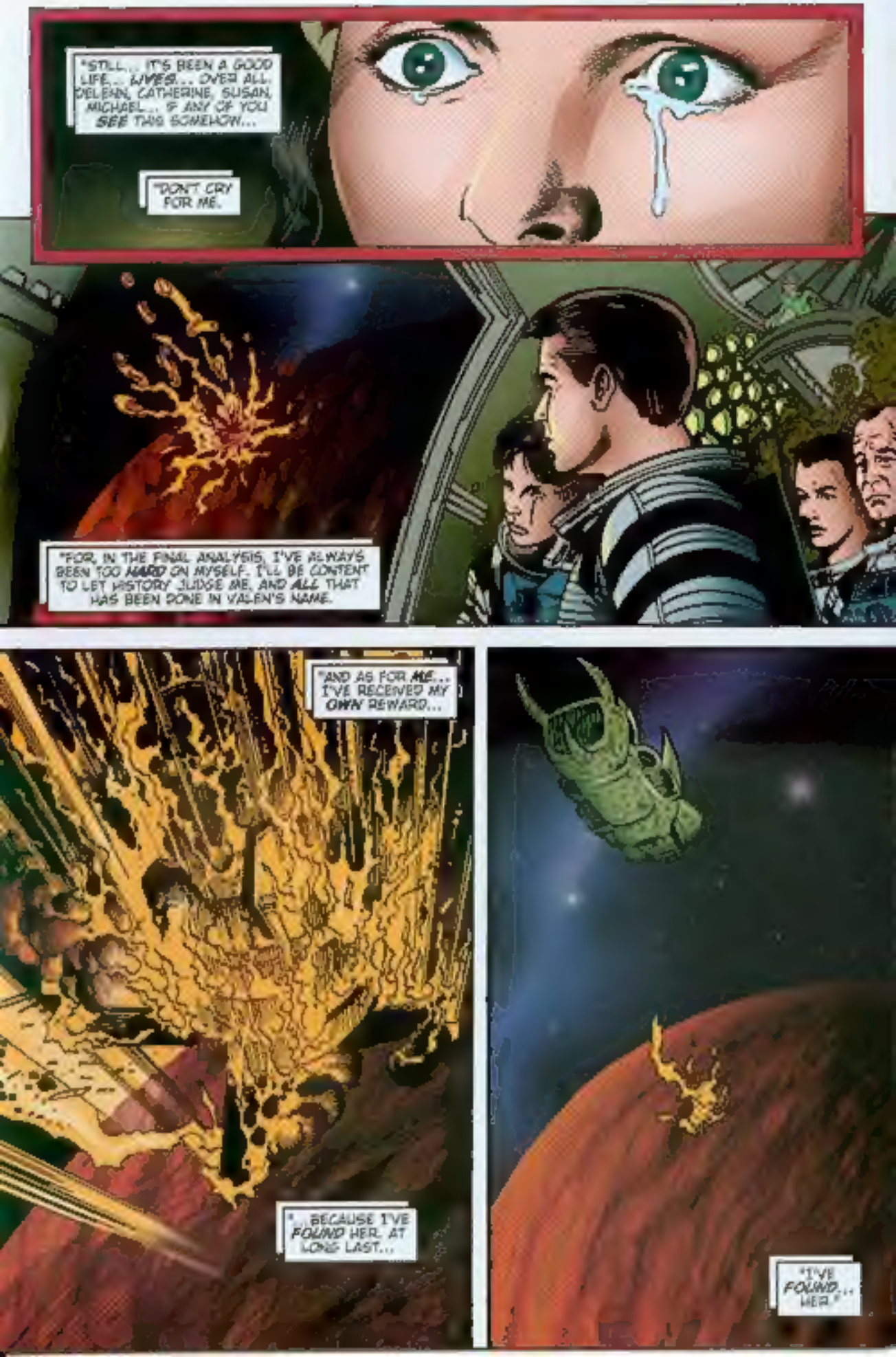
DELENN... WE HAVE TO GO. OUR SHIP'S WAITING.
IN THEIR OWN WAY, THEY WORSHIPPED VALEN AS MUCH AS WE MINBARI EVER DID, JOHN. AND WE EACH REGARDED THIS STATION AS A LINK TO THE PAST... SAW EACH OTHER AS THREATS.
VALEN WOULD HAVE APPRECIATED THE IRONY OF THAT, I THINK... AND THE IRONY OF A RACE WHICH STILL REMAINS WARLIKE NONETHELESS PROVING A SALVATION.
I ONLY WISH I COULD...
I LED THEM INTO FIRE... INTO DARKNESS... INTO DEATH... AND THEY FOLLOWED ME WITHOUT HESITATION.
THEY ACCLAIM MY VICTORIES AND HAIL ME AS A GREAT LEADER.
THEY SPEAK OF MY SUCCESSES AS IF THEY ARE AS INFINITE AS THE STARS.
AND YET... FOR ALL THAT I'VE ACCOMPLISHED... I LIE AWAKE, LISTENING TO THE SCREAMS OF THE DEAD AND DYING.
THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY GONE, AND THOSE WHO ARE YET TO BE BORN. A FEW WORDS FROM ME COULD AVERT THE EARTH-MINBARI CONFLICT, A WARNING TO DELENN OR DUKHAT...
BUT WITHOUT THE WAR THERE WOULD BE NO BABYLON 4 AND NO BABYLON 5. THERE WOULD BE NO RALLYING POINT AGAINST THE DARKNESS... AND THE SHADOWS WOULD WIN, NOW AND A THOUSAND YEARS FROM NOW. I CANNOT DEVIATE FROM THE CIRCLE OF WHICH I AM A PART. I AM THE BEGINNING OF THE STORY, AS ZATHRAS SAID...
MY NAME IS VALEN...
AND I HAVE SERVED MY PEOPLE LIKE NO OTHER.
AND, A PRISONER OF IT... I DARE NOT CHANGE THE END.


"STILL... IT'S BEEN A GOOD LIFE... LIVES... OVER ALL. DELENN, CATHERINE, SUSAN, MICHAEL... IF ANY OF YOU SEE THIS SOMEHOW...
"DON'T CRY FOR ME.
"FOR, IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOO HARD ON MYSELF. I'LL BE CONTENT TO LET HISTORY JUDGE ME, AND ALL THAT HAS BEEN DONE IN VALEN'S NAME.
"AND AS FOR ME... I'VE RECEIVED MY OWN REWARD...
"...BECAUSE I'VE FOUND HER. AT LONG LAST...
"I'VE FOUND... HER."